



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
ENVIRONMENTAL & TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION  
525 NE Oregon Street  
PORTLAND, OREGON 97232-2737

F/NWO3

Memorandum

From: Steve Morris, NMFS Level 2 Team Representative *DDA to CLM*  
To: Dave Jones, Medford BLM District Level 2 Team Representative & Medford BLM  
District Level 1 Team Files  
Date: April 8, 1997  
Re: Completion of ESA Section 7 Consultation on Pointless Fir and Lost Fortune Timber  
Sales, Glendale Resource Area, Medford BLM District

Umpqua River cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarki clarki*) was listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on August 9, 1996 (61 F.R. 41514; August 9, 1996). This evolutionarily significant unit (ESU) includes anadromous, potamodromous, and resident cutthroat trout populations occurring below natural, impassable barriers in the Umpqua River Basin. A biological assessment (BA) describing the effects of ongoing and proposed actions (through first quarter FY 97) on Umpqua River cutthroat trout on the Medford District of the Bureau of Land Management (Medford BLM) was received by NMFS on August 29, 1996. NMFS responded to Medford BLM with a biological opinion covering these actions on September 26, 1996. On December 16, 1996, NMFS received a memo from Medford BLM stating that two timber sales (Pointless Fir and Lost Fortune) had been inadvertently left out of the BA, with additional information showing that these two sales are "likely to adversely affect" Umpqua River cutthroat trout and thus require formal consultation.

On March 18, 1997, NMFS completed a biological opinion on the continued implementation of National Forest and BLM District land and resource management plans (LRMPs) in the Oregon Coast area (LRMP Opinion), including Medford BLM's Resource Management Plan. The incidental take statement in the LRMP opinion provided reasonable and prudent alternatives to avoid or minimize the take of listed salmonids from implementation of the subject LRMPs. In accordance with reasonable and prudent measure # 2., and corresponding term and condition # 2.c.iii., the Level 1 team reviewed the Pointless Fir and Lost Fortune timber sales to determine whether additional measures (beyond the measures proposed in the biological assessment and the terms and conditions in the LRMP Opinion) are required to avoid or minimize adverse effects to listed salmonids.

On April 4, 1997, the Medford BLM Level 1 team agreed that the Pointless Fir and Lost Fortune timber sales are consistent with the LRMP standards and guidelines, the Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives, and LRMP Opinion requirements. No additional measures are deemed necessary to avoid or minimize adverse effects to listed salmonids. This decision was supported by all other Level 1 team fish biologists in the Umpqua Basin who were present (Coos Bay BLM, Roseburg BLM, and Umpqua National Forest). In accordance with process established by term and condition # 2.c.iii. in the LRMP Opinion (p.68), this memorandum serves to conclude formal consultation for the Pointless Fir and Lost Fortune timber sales. Questions regarding consultation on these two actions should be directed to Lance Smith (NMFS, 503/231-2307) or Bob Bessey (Medford BLM, 541/770-2358).

